

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for allocating wireless channels in a wireless communications unit comprising:

identifying a plurality of forward channels dedicated for wireless communication from the wireless communications unit to one or more remote wireless communications units;

identifying a plurality of reverse channels dedicated for communication from the one or more remote wireless communications units to the wireless communications unit;

scheduling the plurality of forward channels according to a first predetermined cycle, wherein each forward channel is assigned a corresponding forward time slot in the first predetermined cycle;

scheduling the plurality of reverse channels according to a second predetermined cycle, wherein each reverse channel is assigned a corresponding reverse time slot in the second predetermined cycle; and

allocating the plurality of forward and reverse channels for communication between the wireless communications unit and one or more remote wireless communications units, wherein each forward time slot has a partial time overlap with a corresponding reverse time slot for wireless communication with a particular remote wireless communications unit such that the second predetermined cycle is out of phase with the first predetermined

cycle by an offset value of less than one time slot and such that return messages for wireless communication with the particular remote wireless communications unit are processed and transmitted in less than one time slot, wherein the offset value is determined based on at least one of a volume of message traffic, an availability of channels, and a likelihood of processing and enqueueing of the return messages before a next time slot.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless ~~communications communication~~ unit is a base station processor and the remote wireless ~~communications communication~~ unit is a subscriber access unit.

3-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 [[5]] wherein the first cycle corresponds to a forward interval, and the second cycle corresponds to a reverse interval.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are equal.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval correspond to an integral multiple.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are between 26 and 27 ms.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are between 13 and 14 ms out of phase.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are an epoch.

13. (Currently amended) A wireless communications unit system ~~for wireless communications~~ comprising:

~~a base station processor connected to a public access network and operable for wireless communication to one or more subscriber access units via a first plurality of wireless channels;~~

~~at least one subscriber access unit in the one or more subscriber access units operable for wireless communication to the base station processor via a second plurality of wireless channels;~~

a processor configured to identify a first plurality of channels dedicated for wireless communication from the wireless communications unit to one or more remote wireless communications units;

the processor configured to identify a second plurality of channels dedicated for communication from the one or more remote wireless communications units to the wireless communications unit;

a scheduler configured ~~operable~~ to allocate the wireless channels for wireless communication at predetermined cycles, wherein each channel in the first and second plurality of channels is dedicated for communication between the wireless ~~communications communication~~ unit and a single remote wireless ~~communications~~ unit at predetermined forward and reverse time slots, respectively; and

the scheduler configured ~~is further operable~~ to schedule the first plurality wireless channels according to a forward cycle, and to schedule the second plurality

wireless channels according to a reverse cycle, wherein each forward time slot has a partial time overlap with a corresponding reverse time slot for wireless communication with the single remote wireless communications unit such that the forward cycle is out of phase with the reverse cycle by an offset value of less than one time slot and such that return messages for wireless communication with the particular remote wireless communications unit are processed and transmitted in less than one time slot, wherein the offset value is determined based on at least one of a volume of message traffic, an availability of channels, and a likelihood of processing and enqueueing of the return messages before a next time slot.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit system of claim 13 wherein the forward cycle occurs at a forward interval and the reverse cycle occurs at a reverse interval.

16. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit system of claim 15 wherein each of the forward channels and each of the reverse channels is allocated for a predetermined duration based on the forward interval and the reverse interval, respectively.

17. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit system of claim 15 wherein the forward interval of the forward cycle and the reverse interval of the reverse cycle are equal in duration.

18. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit ~~system~~ of claim 15 wherein the frequency of the forward interval and the frequency of the reverse interval correspond to an integral multiple.

19. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit ~~system~~ of claim 15 wherein the duration of the forward interval and the duration of the reverse interval is between 26 and 27 ms.

20. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit ~~system~~ of claim 15 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are between 13 and 14 ms out of phase.

21. (Currently amended) The wireless communications unit ~~system~~ of claim 15 wherein the forward interval and the reverse interval are an epoch.

22-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) The wireless communications unit of claim 13 configured as a base station wherein the remote wireless communications unit is a subscriber access unit.